

Landscaping: Improving the Human Condition



**Yvette Goodiel, UF/IFAS Extension Martin County
Florida Master Gardener Conference, October 21, 2013
Session 1, 1:00**

Objectives

- Review environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees and landscaping
- Learn how landscaping benefits children
- Understand how landscaping can reduce crime
- Identify the role of landscaping in strengthening community ties
- Discuss some ways we can bring these benefits to our neighborhoods

Environmental Benefits: Water Quality



Model home LID landscape design at
Madera community in Gainesville.
Designed by Glenn Acomb Associates, Inc.

Environmental Benefits: Water Quality



Environmental Benefits: Resiliency



Environmental Benefits: Resiliency



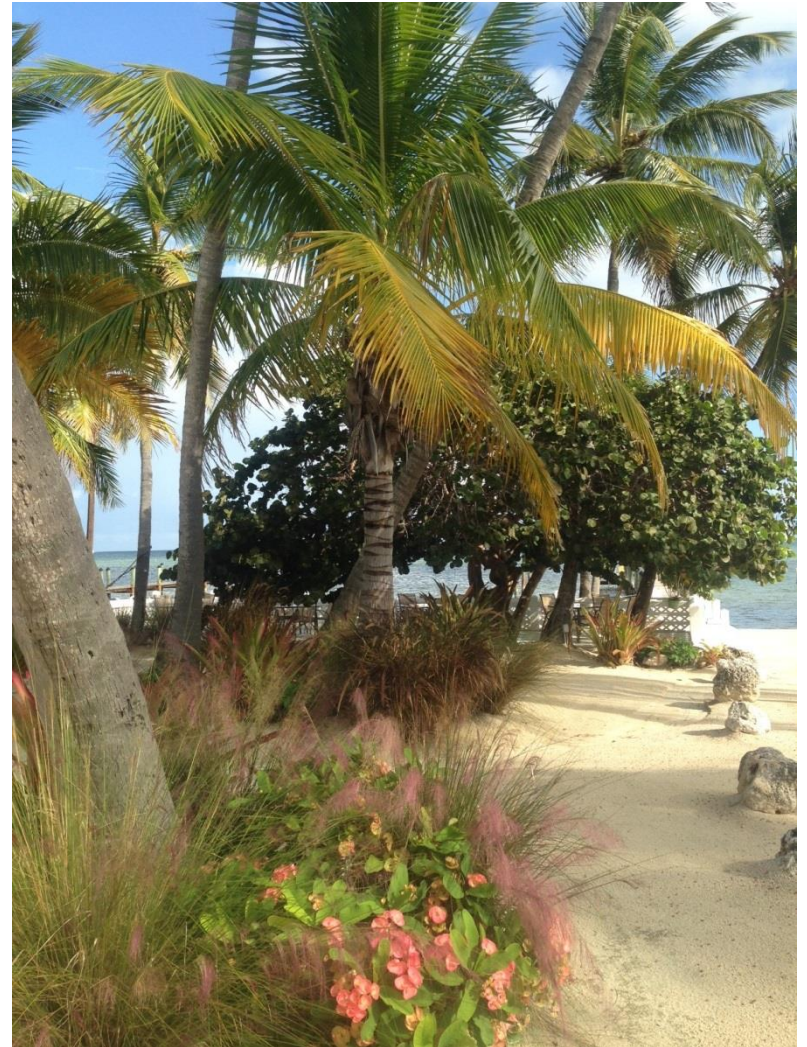
Environmental Benefits: Buffering the effects of development



Health & Safety Benefits: Air quality, water quality, water flow



Photo: [Theresa Watkins](#), UF/IFAS



Social Benefits: Neighborhood social ties



Social Benefits: Neighborhood social ties



Social Benefits: Neighborhood social ties



Social Benefits: Neighborhood social ties



Social Benefits:

Reduced mental fatigue and aggression



Social Benefits: Ability to cope with challenges



Economic Benefits



Healthy Child Development: Creative Play and Learning



Healthy Child Development: Concentration and self-discipline



Healthy Child Development: Concentration and self-discipline



Crime Reduction: Does vegetation promote crime?



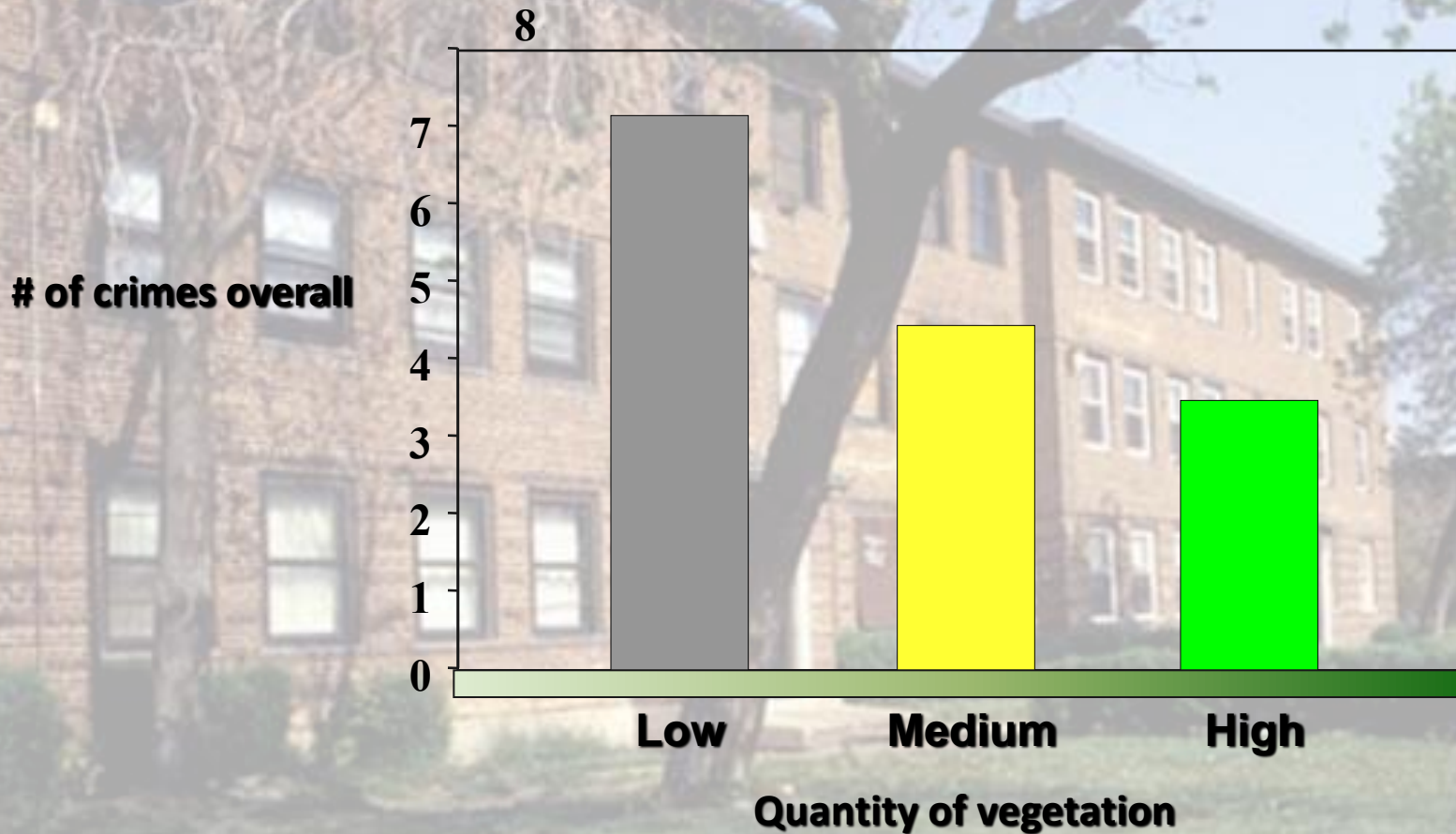
Where would you feel safer?



Crime Reduction



Buildings with more vegetation had fewer crimes overall



Crime Reduction



Signs of Life: Nature preschools



Signs of Life: Greening of Detroit



Photo source: <http://greeningofdetroit.com/>

Signs of Life: Community gardens



Taking it to the streets: Start a community garden



Taking it to the streets: Promote “biophilic design”



Taking it to the streets: Go forth and plant!



Photo: [Theresa Watkins](#), UF/IFAS



Taking it to the streets: Picture a “nature-rich” future



Photo Credits

- UF/IFAS Florida-friendly Landscape Program (<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/lowimpactdev.htm>)
- UF/IFAS File Photos
- University of Illinois Landscape & Human Health Laboratory (<http://lhhl.illinois.edu/>)

References

- Kuo, F.E., & Sullivan, W.C. (2001). Environment and crime in the inner city: Does vegetation reduce crime? *Environment & Behavior*, 33, 343-367.
- Kuo, F.E., Sullivan, W.C., Coley, R.L., & Brunson, L. (1998). Fertile ground for community: Inner-city neighborhood common spaces. *American Journal of Community Psychology* 26(6), 823-851.
- Kuo, F.E. & Sullivan, W.C. (2001). Aggression and violence in the inner city: Impacts of environment via mental fatigue. *Environment & Behavior*, 33(4), 543-571.
- Kuo, F.E. (2001). Coping with poverty: Impacts of environment and attention in the inner city. *Environment and Behavior* 33(1), 5-34.
- Faber Taylor, A., Kuo, F.E., Sullivan, W.C. (2002). Views of nature and self-discipline: Evidence from city children. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 22, 49-63.

Each of the above articles are available at www.lhhl.uiuc.edu

References continued

- Agroforestry: Working Trees for Communities. 2012. USDA National Agroforestry Center.
- Faber Taylor, A. and Kuo, F.E. (2006) Is contact with nature important for healthy child development? State of the evidence. In C. Spencer and M. Blades, (Eds.), Children and Their Environments. (pp. 124-140). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- <http://www.biophilicdesign.net/>